

# **BRANXTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**Parish Council website: [www.branxtonparishcouncil.org](http://www.branxtonparishcouncil.org)**

## **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2022 In Branxton Village Hall at 7.00p.m.**

**PRESENT:** Chairman I MacGregor, Vice-Chairman N Wood  
Parish Councillor A Darbyshire & M Symonds  
Clerk I Hunter  
3 members of the public

**Public Question Time-** None

**Community Police** – The Clerk read out the following update  
There have been no incidents or crimes of note since the last meeting.  
There is a leaflet explaining a new way of making contact with Northumbria police and for people to choose how they would like to be updated.  
It's easy to sign up to the scheme.  
The Clerk reported a copy of the leaflet is on the Parish Council website.

**Apologies for Absence:** Parish Councillor R Clark, & County Councillor M Mather.  
Parish Councillors granted Parish Councillor R Clark leave of absence until the Parish Council meeting to be held on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2022.

**New Parish Councillors:** Mark Symonds signed a Declaration of Acceptance and joined the Parish Council at that point.  
The Chairman welcomed M Symonds on to the Parish Council.

**Declaration of Interest:** None

**Request for Dispensation:** None

**Minutes of the Meeting:** The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2021 previously circulated were agreed as a true record, the Chairman to sign a hard copy.

**Any urgent matters arising from the minutes if not already on the agenda-**

**Min 546- Re-instatement of bus service into Branxton village-** The Clerk read out the response received from County Councillor M Mather. This service was reduced due to the very low passenger usage at the request of Border busses. It is however still available "at request" so if a passenger wants to travel then they can ring the night before and book the bus to call into the village. Possibly the pc could do a bit of advertisement about this. If you find that this does not work, please let me know and I will ring Northumberland County Council again. Also, the 266 that Glen valley run is on a Wednesday. It leaves Wooler at 09.10 and 11.25 return. The full timetable can be seen on the web site. If this is

something that people would want, then we can discuss but like everything we would need to see usage.

Parish Councillors agreed to include the update within the Parish Council report to The Fourum, and the Clerk organise a poster for the noticeboard.

**Min 547- Defibrillator-** Parish Councillors ratified the payment of £118.80 to A Deptford for replacement pads.

The Chairman advised the meeting that a coffee morning was held to raise funds which will be used for the replacement pads & any items related to the defibrillator. He concluded by saying £40 in donations had also been received. Parish Councillors agreed the nett figure for the replacement door, fixings & pads will be deducted from the funds raised.

**Min 548- Requests for donations-** Parish Councillors considered the requests received from The Fourum Newsletter, Citizens Advice & Age Uk for financial support. Parish Councillors agreed that the Parish Council will not use the precept to make donations, however, fund raising events could be considered for specific organisations/charities, Parish Councillors decided not to donate to Citizens Advice or Age Uk. Parish Councillors agreed to defer the request for a donation from The Fourum Newsletter until the May meeting to allow research to be undertaken.

**Min 549- Website-** Parish Councillors agreed to reimburse a resident £13.00 for the domain. Parish Councillors agreed to reimburse the Clerk £48.00 for the site plan. The Clerk advised the meeting that the annual costs for the website will be £61.

**Min 550- Financial Statement-**

- Bank of Scotland Account £1002.33 Includes £148.88 for defibrillator

**Min 551- Receipts**

- |              |          |                         |
|--------------|----------|-------------------------|
| • Fundraiser | £ 294.50 | Defibrillator           |
| • Resident   | £ 20.00  | Donation -defibrillator |
| • Resident   | £ 20.00  | Donation -defibrillator |

**Min 552- Accounts for Payment –**

- |              |          |  |
|--------------|----------|--|
| • A Deptford | £ 118.80 | Replacement pads defibrillator               |
| • E I Hunter | £ 137.40 | Clerk's Salary 13.75 hours @ £12.48 per hour |
| • HMRC       | £ 34.20  | PAYE   |
| • E I Hunter | £ 12.81  | Expenses                                     |
| • E I Hunter | £ 48.00  | Website                                      |
| • Resident   | £ 13.00  | Website                                      |

**Min 553- Planning Approval**

21/02708/FUL- Conversion and change of use of existing farm buildings to create single dwelling together with revised access- Flodden Croft Milfield Cornhill-On-Tweed Northumberland TD12 4QG

## **Min 554- Planning Withdrawal**

21/02344/FUL- Rear elevation conservatory- Church View Branxton Cornhill-On-Tweed  
Northumberland TD12 4SN

## **Min 555- Correspondence**

- 1- GNAA-** Request for a donation
- 2- NCC-** Northumberland Local Plan update
- 3- Age Uk-** Information on scam awareness & support programme. The Clerk informed the meeting that the poster is on the website. Parish Councillors asked the Clerk to contact Age Uk, to see if they would supply leaflets for distribution within the Parish and/or to be placed in the Village Hall for residents to pick-up and ask if a representative would attend a village meeting/event to explain the issues and problems and answer questions.
- 4- NCC-** Local Cycling & Walking Infrastructure Plans consultation- The Clerk informed the meeting the consultation closes on 15<sup>th</sup> April.
- 5- Playlistforlife-** Information suggesting holding a musical tea in April.

**Min 556- Bus Shelter-** The Chairman reported that a resident has repaired the roof of the bus shelter. Parish Councillors agreed the Chairman organise a thank you card for the resident. Parish Councillors agreed the bus shelter is added to the Asset Register and the Clerk contact Northumberland County Council Insurance Department to obtain a cost for adding the bus shelter to the insurance policy. Parish Councillors agreed to have an Agenda item at the May meeting to see if residents wish to retain the bus shelter and the Chairman organise a report for The Fourum ahead of the May meeting.

**Min 557- Annual Audit 2021/22-** Parish Councillors agreed the appointment of Mr E Rathbone as the Internal Auditor for the Parish Council accounts for year end 2021/22. Parish Councillors undertook the Annual review of the Asset Register and agreed to add the bus shelter.

## **Min 558- Local issues/projects**

- The Chairman reported there had been a meeting of a small group of local residents to look at how Branxton can celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. The plan is to hold the main event on 5<sup>th</sup> June, various suggestions are being considered however, the final event will be dependent on the level of funding accessed and availability of attractions. The Chairman proposed planting a cherry tree to mark the occasion and organising a gift for each child in the Parish. The next meeting of the group will be held on 16<sup>th</sup> March, there will be a coffee morning, cake & book sale on 23<sup>rd</sup> April to raise funds. Finally, the Village Hall Committee have submitted 2 funding applications which if successful could raise up to £600.
- The Clerk reported that there have been no written requests from residents suggesting projects that the Parish Council could consider.
- Parish Councillors agreed there were no other issues.
- Parish Councillors agreed there were no actions to be undertaken.

**Min 559- County Councillor M Mather update-** The Clerk read out the following report:

Northumberland County Council updates

The budget is now set and with no front-line cuts. The main points are that we want to support business both new and existing and do the very best for the people that live in Northumberland and i am pleased to see they have listened to my request and added extra funds for U and C roads.

Storm Arwen review is still ongoing. feel free to put any input to the designated email address or to myself.

Storm response / rescue centre a training night, fact finding night is going to be put on to help both pcs and village halls on what they may need to offer and how to link better with NCC. This will also help NCC see what is expected from them. The Wooler ward has been chosen as the trail area.

Future Farming review is also ongoing to see what impacts are in the industry and how it may affect the community's we live in.

The Wooler ward community together group is still going well. It would be great if any of you can attend. The main points that we are looking at are digital information borders across the whole area so all communities know what is available in other local areas and can be used to send out information in an emergency.

**Min 560- Bank Account-** Parish Councillors agreed to add Vice-Chairman N Wood to the list of bank signatures. The Clerk agreed to organise the paperwork for signing.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS:**

Date of the Annual & Annual Parish Council Meetings will be held on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2022 at 7.00 p.m. in Branxton Village Hall.

Meeting closed at 8.05 p.m.

Chairman\_\_\_\_\_